

in my opinion it was a most unfortunate feud. But when he repeated the second time that in his opinion Dr. King was the most notorious liar in the world, I asked him to recant that and he did. I did fail in the women's press conference that I testified about previously.

Chairman STOKES. I know you did. That was the occasion when you sent him three notes asking him to refrain from such an accusation. He finally even said to the women present that Mr. DeLoach has advised me on three separate occasions not to make this statement, but I am going to make it anyway. Isn't that true?

Mr. DELOACH. That is basically correct, sir.

Chairman STOKES. So to go back to my original question to you, your answer, then, would be yes, that with the knowledge that even if you stood up to him, when he made the final decision, and that the rest of you would react out of fear for the loss of your jobs if you did anything different?

Mr. DELOACH. Mr. Chairman, he was the Director and we had to follow his orders or else we would not stay in our positions.

Chairman STOKES. Thank you, Mr. DeLoach. I have nothing further.

Mr. DELOACH. Thank you.

Chairman STOKES. The gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. Preyer.

Mr. PREYER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DeLoach, I gather that your theory on assassination is that James Earl Ray was the lone assassin and that his motive was racism. It would have to be pretty hard racism to cause him to track Dr. King across the country at a time when he was an escapee and had a long prison sentence hanging over him should he be picked up at any moment.

Certainly there is considerable evidence in the record of James Earl Ray's racist attitudes, but it has been somewhat troublesome that there is evidence which I think the FBI was aware of that seems to cut the other way. It would seem to show that he was not such an intense racist, that is, the motive could have been something else, for example, money.

For example, I believe the FBI was aware that he had frequented a bar in Los Angeles for some period of time when he was there and that that bar was about a one-third Black clientele. Apparently he visited there regularly without expressing any racial feelings.

There is evidence of a liaison with Miss Morales in Mexico, possibly with Miss Marie Martin in Los Angeles, both of whom appear to be women of color.

My question is: Did these incidents raise any questions in the minds of the FBI concerning racism as a motive? Do you consider those consistent with racism as a motive for the killing?

Mr. DELOACH. Mr. Preyer, I don't remember those specific incidents. I do remember that Dr. King, while in prison, according to the investigation to the best of my recollection—I am sorry, sir, when James Earl Ray was in prison, to the best of my knowledge, he refused to go on work orders out on the prison farm with blacks because of his dislike of blacks.

I think, also, that to the best of my knowledge that on one occasion he told an inmate in prison that he was going to get Dr.

King. He did have a general feeling of being bigoted, anti-Black.

As to specifically answering your question, do that, sir, if I had the incidents you mentioned attempting to engage in, I do not recall that, sir.

In my opinion, he definitely was a bumbling loner. He was a bumbling individual. I think he wanted to kill, in his opinion, in order to make a name for himself. He was a bumblin' fact that his brother or agents or not I am not sure about this fuss trying to find me.

This, in my opinion, is not the kind of thing that his family would do.

Mr. PREYER. I would like to know of that sort of racist attitude. From your experience of the kind of thing that happened on the other side from him, was he not as intense a racist?

But I gather from your answer that your racism, whether it was against all or just against the Black, and it was not a matter of degree.

You knew of no evidence that he was an intense racist?

Mr. DELOACH. As of particular incidents, Mr. Preyer, that are reported by the FBI, I am not going to tell you the truth.

Mr. PREYER. Just one more question.

The Ray brothers, you know, John Ray visited James Earl Ray in prison, that Jimmy Ray visited James Earl Ray in prison, to show that there was an important, that one of them exchanged his rifle for that it was done on his behalf.

Those statements would seem to link the involvement of the brothers in the assassination of Dr. King. Do you recall any remarkable coincidences?

Chairman STOKES. The witness may respond.

Mr. DELOACH. Thank you.

Mr. Preyer, I recall that all members of the staff and all members of the staff were uncooperative in testifying or refused to give testimony. I felt so strongly about it.

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